

Series II  
Subjects Files,  
1916-1973

Box 10, Folder 5

Decommissioning  
Data,  
September 1945 -  
March 1946

0979

**UNITED STATES  
NAVY  
DISPATCH**

<b>FROM:</b> CINCPAC/CINCPA	<b>DISPATCH</b>
<b>ACTION:</b>	<b>DRAFTED BY</b> _____
COMPHILSAFON COM 7TH BOMB PAC	<b>APPROVED BY</b> _____
<b>INFO:</b>	_____
CNO CINCPAC OCEAN COMSOPAC	<b>RELEASED BY</b> _____
	<b>PRECEDENCE</b> _____ <b>CLASS</b> 'N' _____

**DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED**  
- TEXT -

INITIATE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO DISESTABLISH ALL 7TH BOMB BASES IN PHILIPPINE EXCEPT THOSE AT SAMAR AND AT SUBIC X FACILITIES NOW AT THESE TWO BASES WILL BE UTILIZED X NO NEW CONSTRUCTION WILL BE EFFECTED X PARA X DECOMMISSION ALL 7TH BOMB AND ALL 7TH'S EXCEPT 2 SQUADRONS WHICH WILL REMAIN IN ACTIVE SERVICE X ALL ACTIVE AND ALL DECOMMISSIONED SQUADRONS NOW IN PHILIPPINES WILL BE CONCENTRATED AT SUBIC OR SAMAR AS DESIRED X PARA X COM 7TH BOMB INITIATE ACTION IMMEDIATELY TO DECOMMISSION 7TH'S NOW IN RYUKUS AND IN SOPAC X SUBMIT RECOMMENDATION BY 15 SEPT AS TO (A) ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF DECOMMISSIONED 7TH (B) DESIGNATION OF 2 AGP'S WHICH WILL CONTINUE IN ACTIVE SERVICE TEMPORARILY (C) DISPOSITION OF REMAINING AGP'S

**RADIO HEADING**

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
090100 SEPT 48				REFERENCE (a)

0980

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
COMMANDEER-DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
DISPATCHES**

FROM: <b>OTU 93.4.60</b>	DISPATCH DRAFTED BY _____
ACTION: <b>COMINTERONSPAC</b>	APPROVED BY _____
INFO: <b>BUSKIPS GND CINCPAC/CINCPAC HED PEARL COMPHILSKAFRON</b>	RELEASED BY _____
	PRECEDENCE _____ CLASS 'N _____

**DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED**

- TEXT -

**INSPECTION ALL PT'S THIS COMMAND COMPLETED ACCORDANCE YOUR ORAL DIRECTIVE 18 SEPT BY BOARD OF 3 OFFICERS EACH DON SHOWS 74 PT'S LISTED BELOW ALL OVER 2 YEARS OLD HAVE OVER 50 PERCENT FOLLOWING DEFECTS DUE TO COMBAT AND OPERATIONAL DAMAGE X AND NORMAL DETERIORATION X**

- (A) 20 OR MORE FRAMES BROKEN SPLIT OR CRACKED
- (B) FRAMES WORKING AT CHINE
- (C) GUSSET PLATES WORKING AT FRAMES
- (D) KEEL BREAKS
- (E) EXTENSIVE REPLANKING WITH FASTENING BACKING OUT DUE TO SOFT FRAMES
- (F) EXTENSIVE WORN ACTION AND WET AND DRY ROT
- (G) EXTENSIVE LEAKS IN DECKS AND CANOPIES
- (H) BROKEN OR CRACKED LONGITUDINALS X

**X74 X 75 X 76 X 78 X 81 X 83 X 84 X 103 X 104 X 105 X 106 X 108 X 114 X  
115 X 116 X 120 X 122 X 124 X 127 X 128 X 129 X 130 X 131 X 132 X 134 X  
138 X 142 X 143 X 144 X 146 X 148 X 149 X 150 X 151 X 152 X 156 X 159 X  
161 X 167 X 170 X 175 X 176 X 178 X 179 X 181 X 184 X 188 X 189 X 192 X  
194 X 196 X 220 X 221 X 222 X 223 X 225 X 227 X 230 X 233 X 235 X 241 X  
248 X 252 X 277 X 280 X 282 X 284 X 285 X 288 X 336 X 350 X 351 X 369 X**

**370 X MATERIALS TIME AND LABOR REQUIRED PLACE THESE BOATS IN CONDITION TO LAY UP IN RESERVE CONSIDERED PROHIBITIVE X ALSO CONSIDERED BEYOND ECONOMICAL MAINTENANCE FOR UTILITY USE X RECOMMEND AUTHORITY BE OBTAINED STRIP BOATS ALL USABLE EQUIPMENT AND DESTROY HULLS**

**RADIO HEADING**

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
251509 SEPT 45				REFERENCE (b)

0981



MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRONS PACIFIC FLEET  
Office of the Commander

COMTBronsPac/S3  
Serial 1633  
JPC:rmh

17 October 1945.

From: Commander Motor Torpedo Boat Squadrons, PACIFIC Fleet.  
To : Lieutenant Commander John E. Palmer, (E)L, USNR, 100938.

Subject: Inspection Board for PT's - Orders for.

1. You are hereby appointed senior member of a Board of Inspection consisting of Lieutenant Wallace B. Agnew and Carpenter W. H. Mayo, to inspect those PT's designated by Commander Motor Torpedo Boat Squadrons Philippine Sea Frontier and submit a recommendation as to whether or not these boats should be retained or destroyed.

2. A complete and detailed report shall be submitted on each boat inspected giving a list of hull repairs necessary to make the best structurally sound and watertight, and an estimate of the time required for a tender of the ACONTIUS type to make the necessary repairs.

3. You are instructed to exercise due caution in recommending boats for destruction as these boats are the property of the Government and should be retained unless the cost of repairs is prohibitive. The cost of care, handling, and disposition should not exceed the estimated proceeds.

R. W. BATES

Copy to:  
COMTBronsPhilSeaFront  
Decommissioning Officer, PT Base 17  
Lieutenant Wallace B. Agnew  
Carpenter W. H. Mayo

Reference (d)

0983

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

FROM: <b>SEC NAV</b>	DISPATCH DRAFTED BY _____
ACTION: <b>PAC POA</b>	APPROVED BY _____ _____ _____
INFO: <b>CPSF</b>	RELEASED BY _____ PRECEDENCE <u>CONF</u> CLASS'N <u>DEFERRED</u>

DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED  
 - TEXT -

DISPOSAL OF PT'S 137 362 364 365 AND 367 AS RECOMMENDED BY  
 COM MIBRON PAC DIS 19/95/ AUTHORIZED SUBJECT YOUR APPROVAL X  
 REPORT DATES OF PLACING OUT OF SERVICE TO CNO

REF : 19/95/ - YOUR #6/424 AND SECNAV #42245 X PTS 137 X 362 X  
 364 X 365 X AND 367 FOUND TO BE IN POOR STRUCTURAL  
 CONDITION X RECOMMEND BOATS BE STRIPPED AND HULLS  
 DESTROYED X ADDITIONAL BOATS WILL BE RECOMMENDED  
 LATER AS SPECIAL INSPECTION BOARD REPORTS X OTHER  
 BOATS KNOWN TO BE IN POOR STRUCTURAL CONDITION

RADIO HEADING

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
01155/				Reference (e)

0984

UNITED STATES FLEET  
COMMANDER PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER  
OUTGOING DISPATCH

<b>FROM:</b> SECNAV <b>ACTION:</b> CINCPAC/CINCPMA HED PEARL <b>INFO:</b> COMTBROSPAC COMPHILSEAFRON	<b>DISPATCH</b> DRAFTED BY _____ APPROVED BY _____ _____ _____ RELEASED BY _____ PRECEDENCE <u>ROUTINE</u> CLASS'N <u>P/L</u>
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DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED  
- TEXT -

YOUR 020217 AND 060106 APPROVED X REPORT DATE OF PLACING OUT OF SERVICE  
TO CNO X STRIP AND DESTROY HULLS X

REF. 020217: REFER COMTBROSPAC 290610 X RECOMMEND APPROVAL X  
SECNAV 042245 AND YOUR 261655 ALSO REFER XXX

REF. 060106: RECOMMEND APPROVAL COMTBROSPAC 040400 XXX

REF. 290610: REFERENCE CNO 261655---ETC. X 32 PTS RECOMMENDED FOR  
DESTRUCTION BY 190955 X

REF. 042245: DISPOSAL OF 74 PTS BY STRIPPING BOATS OF USABLE  
EQUIPMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF HULLS AS RECOMMENDED ETC.

REF. 261655: REUR 210129 ALL PTS RECOMMENDED FOR STRIPPING AND  
DESTRUCTION AS RESULT OF BEING WORN OR DAMAGED BEYOND ECONOMICAL  
REPAIR SHOULD BE REPORTED TO CNO GIVING DETAILS ---ETC, XXX

REF. 040400: REUR 060424 AND SECNAV 042245 AND CNO 261655 X  
FOLLOWING 8 HIGGINS PTS RECOMMENDED FOR STRIPPING AND DESTRUCTION X  
-----THIS COMPLETES INSPECTION OF AND RECOMMENDATIONS ETC. XXX

RADIO HEADING

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
071415 NOV			REF P	

0985

UNITED STATES FLEET  
COMMANDER PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER  
OUTGOING DISPATCH

<b>FROM:</b> CINGPAC POA <b>ACTION:</b> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">CNO</div> <b>INFO:</b>	<b>DISPATCH</b> <b>DRAFTED BY</b> _____  <b>APPROVED BY</b> _____ _____ _____  <b>RELEASED BY</b> _____  <b>PRECEDENCE</b> <u>ROUTINE</u> <b>CLASS'N</b> <u>RESTRICTED</u>
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DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED

- TEXT -

REFER COMBIBRONSPAC 2<sup>9</sup>0610 X RECOMMEND APPROVAL X SECNAV 042245  
AND YOUR 261655 ALSO REFER X

**RADIO HEADING**

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
020217 NOV				

0986



23/29

290610

#326

FROM: COM MTB RONS PAC FLT  
TO : CINGPAC/POA HED PEARL  
INFO: SECNAV, CNO, BUSHIPS, COMPHILSEAFRON, (BY MAIL)  
COMMBRONSPHILSEAFRON (BY MAIL) CNS SAMAR (BY MAIL)

REFERENCE CNO 261655 TO CINGPAC CINGPOA HED PEARL X 32 PTS RECOMMENDED FOR DESTRUCTION MY 190950 X 240808 AND 260809 HAVE BEEN INSPECTED BY SPECIAL 3 OFFICER BOARD ESPECIALLY INSTRUCTED BY CAPTAIN GEORGE HOLDERNESS USN AND HAVE SIMILAR DEFECTS TO THOSE LISTED GTU 93.4.60 X 251409 X IN ADDITION THESE BOATS REQUIRE OVER 1500 MAN HOURS WORK HULL REPAIR TO PLACE THEM IN SOUND ENOUGH STRUCTURAL CONDITION AND WATER TIGHTNESS TO ENABLE THEM TO BE SATISFACTORILY LAID UP FOR DISPOSAL X ADDITIONAL MAN HOURS MATERIALS AND TIME THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PLACE THEM IN COMBAT OPERATIONAL CONDITION NOT INCLUDED X GENERAL EXTENSIVE DEFECTS NOTED IN THESE 32 BOATS ARE AS FOLLOWS X

- (A) WET AND DRY ROT THROUGHOUT ALL CANOPIES
- (B) DECKS ROTTEN THROUGH FROM 20 TO 50 PERCENT
- (C) GUNWALES BACKING AWAY FASTENING LOOSE CMA LEAKY
- (D) STRUCTURAL DAMAGES DUE TO REEFING CMA COLLISION AND EMBEY ACTION
- (E) MULTIPLE PUNCTURES REQUIRING REPATCHING
- (F) TRANSOMS SOFT AND ROTTING
- (G) WORM ACTION OUTER AND INNER CHINE AND IN KEEL
- (H) EXTENSIVE SEEPAGE ALONG 50 TO 100 PERCENT OF KEEL X

LABOR X MATERIALS AND TIME REQUIRED TO PLACE THESE BOATS IN CONDITION TO LAY UP IS CONSIDERED PROHIBITIVE X IN ADDITION MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP COSTS ON THESE BOATS WILL SOON BECOME EXCESSIVE

TOD: 290951 OCT

DTG:  
ORIGINATOR \_\_\_\_\_  
RELEASED BY \_\_\_\_\_

0987

19 OCT 45

FROM: COMINTERONSPACFLT  
ACTION: CINCPAC/POA HEDPEARL  
INFO: CNO, SECNAV, COMINTERONSPHILSEAFTON

190950

#253

YOUR 060424 AND SECNAV 042245 X PTS 137 X 362 X 364 X 365 X AND 367 FOUND  
TO BE IN POOR STRUCTURAL CONDITION X RECOMMEND BOATS BE STRIPPED AND  
HULLS DESTROYED X ADDITIONAL BOATS WILL BE RECOMMENDED LATER AS SPECIAL  
INSPECTING BOARD REPORTS X OTHER BOATS KNOWN TO BE IN POOR STRUCTURAL  
CONDITION

35/19

D.T.G. 190950 OCT 45  
TOD: 191114

RADIO RR

0988

NHN 5451

240808

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

YOUR 060424 DCR AND SECNAV 042245 X FOLLOWING MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS  
RECOMMENDED FOR DISPOSAL STRIPPING AND DESTROYING HULLS X 125 X 163  
X 168 X 169 X 171 X 174 X 177 X 182 X 183 X 185 X 186 X 324 X 325 X  
327 X 321 X 330 X 331 X 345 X 352 X THESE BOATS ARE GENERALLY FROM ABOUT  
2 AND 1/2 TO OVER 3 YEARS OLD ARE IN POOR STRUCTURAL CONDITION AND  
NECESSARY REPAIRS ARE PROHIBITIVE X OTHER BOATS WILL BE RECOMMENDED  
AS SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS X ABOVE ARE ELCO BOATS X ONE ADDITIONAL ELCO  
SQUADRON NUMBER 2 AND 5 HIGGINS SQUADRONS ARE YET TO BE INSPECTED X ALL  
PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER

REF: 060424 - SECNAV 042245 AUTHORIZED DISPOSAL OF 74 PTS BY STRIPPING  
OF USABLE MATERIAL AND DESTROYING HULLS WHICH WERE  
REPORTED BY CTU 93.4.60 ETC.

REF: 042245 - DISPOSAL OF 74 PT'S BY STRIPPING BOATS OF USABLE  
EQUIPMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF HULLS AS RECOMMENDED BY  
CTU ... ETC.

FROM: COM MTB RON SPAC

ACTION: CINCPACPOA

INFO: CNO/COM MTB RONS PHILSEAFRON/ CONSERV PAC/ CPSE/ SECNAV

A-F-5/P-52/INFO ALL DIV HEADS

240808

JDK

GAG

164 2035/24

OCT LD-16701

0989

CONFIDENTIAL

260809 OCTOBER 1945

PRIORITY

YOUR 060424 AND SECNAV 042245 X PT'S 126 X 154 X 155 X 157 X 160 X 162 X  
ELCO TYPE WHICH COMPLETES ELCOS PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER AND PTS 80 AND  
82 HIGGINS TYPE FOUND IN POOR STRUCTURAL CONDITION X RECOMMEND BOATS BE  
STRIPPED AND HULLS DESTROYED X INSPECTION OF HIGGINS BOATS NOT HERETOFORE  
CONDEMNED NOW UNDERWAY X THIS EMBRACES 27 BOATS OF PT SQUADRONS 16 X 17 X  
20 AND 23

REF: 060424-(CONFIDENTIAL)-SECNAV 042245 AUTHORIZED DISPOSAL OF 74 PTS  
BY STRIPPING OF USABLE MATERIAL AND DESTROYING HULLS WHICH  
WERE REPORTED BY CTU 93.4.60 251409 IN POOR MATERIAL CONDITION X  
ETC.....

REF: 042245-(CONFIDENTIAL)-DISPOSAL OF 74 PTS BY STRIPPING BOATS OF USABLE  
EQUIPMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF HULLS AS RECOMMENDED BY CTU 93.4.60  
ETC..

FROM: COMETBSPAC  
ACTION: CINCPAC/CINCPAC HED PEARL  
INFO: CNO, COMBIBRONSPHILSEAFTON: SECNAV

260809 OCTOBER 1945

0990

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

REUR 060424 AND SECNAV 042245 AND CNO 261655 X FOLLOWING 8 HIGGINS  
PT'S RECOMMENDED FOR STRIPPING AND DESTRUCTION X 242 X 243 X 244 X

246 X 281 X 286 X 287 X 297 X THIS COMPLETES INSPECTION OF AND REC-  
OMENDATIONS FOR STRIPPING AND DESTRUCTION ALL PT'S ATTACHED COMINTRONSPSF X

EACH OF ABOVE 8 PT'S WOULD REQUIRE IN EXCESS OF 2100 MAN HOURS HULL REPAIR  
WORK TO PLACE THEM IN SOUND ENOUGH STRUCTURAL CONDITION AND WATER TIGHTNESS

TO ENABLE THEM TO BE SATISFACTORILY LAID UP FOR DISPOSAL X GENERAL EXTENSIVE  
EFFECTS NOTED IN THESE 8 PT'S ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) WET AND DRY ROT IN CANOPY

AND HATCHES (B) DECKS SOFT AND ROTTING (C) GUNWALES LOOSE, FASTENINGS BACKING  
OUT, LEAKY (D) INNER PLANKING ALONG 50 PERCENT OF KEEL SOFT AND ROTTING (E)

CHINE AND GUNWALE WORKING IN LAZARETTES (F) WET ROT IN KEEL AND STEM (G)  
EXCESSIVE LEAKS AND SEEPING 50 PERCENT OF KEEL (H) INTERNAL CONDITIONS POOR X

LABOR X MATERIALS AND TIME REQUIRED TO PLACE THESE BOATS IN CONDITION TO LAY  
UP IS CONSIDERED PROHIBITIVE

REF 060424 - SEC NAV 042245 AUTHORIZED DISPOSAL OF 74 PTS BY STRIPPING  
OF USABLE MATERIALS AND DESTROYING HULLS WHICH WERE REPORTED  
BY CTU 93.4.60 .....ETC.

REF 042245 - DISPOSAL OF 74 PT'S BY STRIPPING BOATS OF USABLE EQUIPMENT  
AND DESTRUCTION OF HULLS AS RECOMMENDED BY CTU, ETC.

REF 261655 - REF UR 210129 X ALL PTS RECOMMENDED FOR STRIPPING AND  
DESTRUCTION AS RESULT OF BEING WORN OR DAMAGED BEYOND  
ECONOMICAL REPAIR SHOULD BE REPORTED TO CNO...ETC.

FROM: COM INTBS PAC

ACTION: CINCPAC POA

INFO: COM INTRONS PSF; RDO LEXTE; BUSHIPS; CNO; CPSF; SECNAV

A-F-S

040400

GUN RCL

261 1512/05 NOV LD 2621

0991

UNITED STATES FLEET  
COMMANDER PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER  
OUTGOING DISPATCH

<b>FROM:</b> COMINCH <b>ACTION:</b> PAC POA/ CINCLANT <b>INFO:</b> COM MEBRONSPAC/COMSERV- PAC/ CPSE/ COTLANT/COM3/COM12/ COMOPDEVFORLANT	<b>DISPATCH</b> DRAFTED BY _____ APPROVED BY _____ _____ _____ RELEASED BY _____ PRECEDENCE <u>DEFERRED</u> CLASS 'N <u>RESTRICTED</u>
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DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED  
- TEXT -

SCHEDULED FOR DISPOSAL AS SEPARATELY DIRECTED ARE ALL AGPS AND ALL PTS EXCEPT 4 RETAINED FOR EXPERIMENTAL USE X AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE TAKE ACTION AS FOLLOWS: (A) (1) CINCPAC DECOMMISSION MEBRONS 39 AND 40 AND PLACE ASSIGNED BOATS OUT OF SERVICE AT SAMAR X (2) DIRECT ACONTIUS (AGP 12) AND CYRENE (AGP 13) PROCEED SAN FRANCISCO REPORT

COM 12 X (B) (1) CINCLANT DIRECT FOLLOWING PROCEED NEW YORK REPORT COM3: PTS 505 545 557 559 MEBRON 41 MEBRON 42 LESS PTS 613 616 619 620 BRONTES (AGP 17) CHIRON (AGP 18) (2) PTS 613 616 619 620 HEREBY ASSIGNED MEBRON 4 X CINCLANT FURTHER ASSIGN THESE BOATS TO OPDEVFOR X THIS MODIFIES MY 131615 AND 282142 BOTH SEPT 111514 OCT NOT TO ALL OR NEEDED X

RADIO HEADING

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
291748 NOV			Reference (9)	

0992

UNITED STATES FLEET  
COMMANDER PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER  
OUTGOING DISPATCH

<b>FROM:</b> CNO <b>ACTION:</b> PAC POA <b>INFO:</b> COM MIBRONSPAC/ CPST	<b>DISPATCH</b> <b>DRAFTED BY</b> _____ <b>APPROVED BY</b> _____ _____ _____ <b>RELEASED BY</b> _____ <b>PRECEDENCE</b> <u>DEFERRED</u> CLASS'N <u>P/L</u>
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DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED  
- TEXT -

MY 291748 ALL PT'S WILL BE DISPOSED OF ACCORDANCE PARA 202 NPR AND  
 REC NUMBER 4 X THOSE CONSIDERED DAMAGED OR WORN BEYOND ECONOMICAL  
 REPAIR SHOULD BE SURVEYED BY LOCAL PROPERTY SURVEY BOARD AND  
 WRITTEN REPORTS FORWARDED TO CNO X FORMAL INSURV NOT REQUIRED X  
 PARTICULAR ATTENTION INVITED REPORTS REQUIRED BY ABOVE REFERENCE X  
 REMOVE MILITARY EQUIPMENT

RADIO HEADING

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
081440 DEC			Reference H	

0993

UNITED STATES FLEET  
COMMANDER PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER  
OUTGOING DISPATCH

FROM: CINCNAV POA	DISPATCH DRAFTED BY _____
ACTION: CNO	APPROVED BY _____
INFO:	RELEASED BY _____
	PRECEDENCE <u>ROUTINE</u> CLASS 'N <u>CONF.</u>

DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED  
- TEXT -

APPROXIMATELY 157 PT HULLS IN SERVICEABLE CONDITION AND NOT  
DESTROYED ACCORDANCE UR 261655 OCT AWAITING DISPOSAL AT BASE 17  
SAMAR X AVAILABILITY PRESERVATION MEASURES INADEQUATE TO PREVENT  
PROGRESSIVE DETERIORATION WOODEN HULLS X ENGINES AND INSTALLED  
EQUIPMENT X BOATS DECOMMISSIONED EARLY NOVEMBER WILL SOON REQUIRE  
REDOCKING AND REAPPLICATION PRESERVATION MEASURES X BEST INFORMATION  
INDICATES EACH BOAT WILL REQUIRE REDOCKING AND REAPPLICATION  
PRESERVATIVE MEASURES EVERY 3 MONTHS X COMPHILSEAFRON MAY DESIRE TO  
RECOMMEND DISESTABLISHMENT OF PT BASE 17 AT SAMAR AFTER DISPOSAL  
OF THESE BOATS X UNLESS BOATS CAN BE DISPOSED OF BY SALE OR OTHER-  
WISE RECOMMEND DESTRUCTION BY BURNING

RADIO HEADING

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
202241 DEC			Reference (i)	

0994



Enclosure (A) of reference (j).

ESTIMATED COST OF OPERATING PT BASE 17, SAMAR, HANDLING  
100 DECOMMISSIONED MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS PER YEAR

Pay, 200 men at \$130 per month	\$312,000
Subsistence, 200 men @ \$31 per day	62,050
Maintenance, including civilian salaries	27,600
	<hr/>
	\$401,650

An additional <sup>\$ 236,600</sup> ~~\$59,000~~ should be added to this amount if 159  
PTs are to be maintained. This cost estimate does not include  
logistics costs for material required to support the personnel.  
~~This would be as much as a million additional dollars.~~

Enclosure (A) of reference (j).

0995

UNITED STATES FLEET  
COMMANDER PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER  
OUTGOING DISPATCH

FROM: <b>COMSERVPAC</b> ACTION: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"><b>BUSHIPS</b></div> INFO:	DISPATCH DRAFTED BY _____ APPROVED BY _____ _____ _____ RELEASED BY _____ PRECEDENCE <u>ROUTINE</u> CLASS 'N <u>RESTRICTED</u>
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DISPATCHES SHOULD BE TYPEWRITTEN TO FACILITATE ACCURACY AND SPEED  
- TEXT -

RE CNO 291748 NOV NOT TO ALL OR NEEDED X SINCE ALL PT BOATS IN  
 PACFLT SCHEDULED FOR DISPOSAL PROPOSE DECLARE ALL SPARE PACKARD  
 ENGINES X PACKARD ENGINE SPARE PARTS X PT BOAT SPARES X PACKARD  
 OVERHAUL TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT IN POA SURPLUS FOR DISPOSAL AT  
 PRESENT LOCATIONS X ADVISE

RADIO HEADING

DATE-TIME GROUP	SYSTEM	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	LR
042304			Reference K	

0996

COMMANDER MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRON  
PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER

Seventy-four PT's recommended for destruction by CTU 93.4.60 Confidential  
Despatch 251409 September. Approved by SecNav 042245 October: PT's Nos.:

74	75	76	78	81	83	84	103	104
105	106	108	114	115	116	120	122	124
127	128	129	130	131	132	134	138	142
143	144	146	148	149	150	151	152	156
159	161	167	170	175	176	178	179	181
184	188	189	192	194	196	220	221	222
223	225	227	230	233	235	241	248	252
277	280	282	284	285	288	336	350	351
369	370							

----- 74

Forty additional PT's recommended and approved as follows:

MTB Rons Pac 190950 October recommended. SecNav 011550 Nov. approved:

PT's Nos. : 137 362 364 365 367

MTB Rons Pac 290610 October included despatches indicated, and  
SecNav 071415 November approved:

240808 Oct. PT's Nos.: 125 163 168 169 171 174  
177 182 183 185 186 324  
325 327 321 330 331 345  
352

260809 Oct. PT's Nos.: 126 154 155 157 160 162  
80 82

040400 Oct. PT's Nos.: 242 243 244 246 281 286  
287 297 ----- 40

PT's 474, and 477 damaged by Okinawa Typhoon. Destruction approved  
by Despatch SecNav 122203 October. ----- 2

Total: ----- -116

Phil-01-wjk  
(11-46)

13 March 1946

MEMORANDUM for: Captain R. B. SIMONS.

The statement concerning Motor Torpedo Boats herein contained is 100% in error and not worthy of serious attention. However, in order that the truth may be known the following is submitted.

When the Motor Torpedo Boat fleet was recommended for decommissioning or retention a study was made as to the condition of all Motor Torpedo Boats. It was found that 116 Motor Torpedo Boats were in unsatisfactory condition for retention and could not be readily repaired without a large expenditure of time and money. The average useful life of Motor Torpedo Boats - owing to their light construction - is about two years. The above 116 boats were nearly all about 3 years old and were in poor condition due to reefing, enemy gun fire, bad upkeep owing, primarily, to a shortage of upkeep material such as paint in the combat areas and kindred matters.

Each boat was inspected by a squadron board which recommended it for destruction - and also by a special board which passed upon the squadron recommendations. This analysis indicated in general that the general condition of the boats embraced a majority of the following:

- (a) Structural damages due to enemy action, collision, reefing, etc.
- (b) Multiple punctures requiring repatching.
- (c) Keel breaks.
- (d) Wet and dry rot throughout all canopies.
- (e) Transoms soft and rotting.
- (f) Extensive worm action around chines and keel.
- (g) Considerable seepage along 50 to 100% of keel.
- (h) Broken and cracked longitudinals.
- (i) Ten or more frames broken, split or cracked.
- (j) Decks rotten through from 20 to 50% necessitating replanking.

Both CinCPac and CNO referred the recommendation for destruction to the Secretary of the Navy who directing that it be carried out by first stripping the boats of all equipment. As a result the guns, engines, fire control equipment, navigational equipment, fittings, etc. were removed boxed and turned into store and the boats were burned. After burning the area was inspected and parts such as the stern tube bushings were removed and turned into scrap.

Every effort was made to save any boat which gave promise of being repairable at reasonable cost and time. As a result 159 Motor Torpedo Boats were recommended for retention. These boats are at Base SEVENTEEN, Samar, where a force of 500 men are busily engaged in endeavoring to keep them in condition suitable for the market.

0998

(11-46)(Cont'd)

It reportedly cost about \$450 per man to keep a man in the forward areas. Therefore, the upkeep of these boats is costing about \$225,000 per month or about \$2,700,000 per year. When to this is added the costs of the materials they used in the repair of boats it should be evident that these 159 boats are costing the government about \$3,000,000 per year without any return whatsoever.

These 159 boats have been declared as surplus to the Office of the Foreign Liquidation Commissioner but there is no market.

R. F. BATES,  
Chief of Staff.

0999

COMMANDER MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRON  
PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER

**Subject:** Motor Torpedo Boat Squadron Decommissioning Program.

**References:**

- (a) CINCPAC rest. desp. 090810 Sept.
- (b) CTU 93.4.60 conf. desp. 251109 Sept.
- (c) SECNAV conf. desp. 042245 October.
- (d) COMBIBRONSPAC ltr. Serial 1433 of 17 October.
- (e) SECNAV rest. desp. 011550 Nov.
- (f) SECNAV rest. desp. 071415 Nov.
- (g) CNO rest. desp. 291748 Nov.
- (h) CNO rest. desp. 081140 Dec.
- (i) COMBIBRONSPAC conf. desp. 202241 Dec.
- (j) COMBIBRONSPAC ltr. Serial 0020 of 10 Sept.
- (k) COMSERVPAC rest. 042304 Dec.

**Enclosures:**

- (A) Disposition of all MTBs POA.
- (B) PT Spare Parts Report.

1. Motor Torpedo Boats have engaged the enemy continually since the very beginning of the World War II. Toward the end of the war and before cessation of hostilities, a large number of PT Boats were showing considerable battle damage and abnormal deterioration caused by tropical climatic conditions in addition to numerous groundings while on patrol. Upon direction of CinCPac, Inspection Boards were appointed to determine the material condition of each PT boat of the various squadrons. It was aimed to decommission or dispose of all overaged PTs not seaworthy and to reclassify or reassign PTs to squadrons according to age. This was because of the more severe sea conditions expected in the North.

2. At about the time when these reports were reaching COMBIBRONSPAC, the hostilities ceased. At this time CinCPac directed by reference (a) that action be taken to commence decommissioning PT bases and squadrons. The decommissioning of MTBs, disestablishing of MTB bases in the Philippines and in POA, was begun in early September, 1945 under COMBIBRONSPAC, Commodore BATES and COMBIBRONSPAC PSF, Captain BOWLING. Captain BOWLING was relieved by Commander Van L. WANSLEY on the 31st of October. Commander WANSLEY was relieved by Commander Joseph A. MICHAUD on 14th November. An efficient organization has been responsible for the expeditious work of decommissioning of MTBs under CPSP and MTBs of F.C.A.

3. Most of the work of decommissioning PTs, placing out of service, stripping and destroying hulls, and storing has been done at PT Base 17, SAMAR, P.I. There were 25 squadrons in POA at the beginning of the decommissioning program. 19 under operational control CPSP and 6 under other Commands, all under the administrative control of COMBIBRONSPAC.

4. The Inspection Boards mentioned above found 74 PT boats to be in a condition far beyond economical repair. A despatch, reference (b), was

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sent requesting authority to dispose of these 74 boats by stripping of all usable materials and burning the hulls. Reference (c) authorized destruction of these 74 PTs. This despatch also requested that other PTs found to be in a similar condition be reported by the same method.

5. An inspection board was appointed by Commodore R. W. BATES, reference (d), whose members were especially trained by Captain George H. DREWESS, U.S.N., a naval constructor, to inspect the material condition of all remaining PT boats to be decommissioned. An additional 40 boats were found by this board to be far beyond any economical repair and were reported to CWO. References (e) and (f) authorized destruction of these bad boats. All these boats required between 1500 to 2000 man-hours work to make them structural sound. This is in addition to the average 600 man-hours work required in preparing them for storage.

6. The remainder of PTs except PTs 474 and 477, which were damaged beyond economical repair during a typhoon at Okinawa, were salvaged and processed by PT tenders and PT Base 17 for laying up, in accordance with BuShips NEI Chapter IX.

7. References (g) and (h) directed all electronic, ordnance, and other military equipment be removed from PTs awaiting disposal. All this equipment was invoiced to PT Base 17 and declared surplus. This stripping will leave the PT hulls equipped with only the basic equipment necessary for propulsion, navigation and living accommodations.

8. Reference (i) explains the futile amount of work required to maintain a fleet of 159 PT boats in an out of commission status. Enclosure (A) of reference (j) lists approximate cost of \$401,650 per annum for operating PT Base 17, Somar to maintain 100 PT Boats. An additional ~~1359,600~~ <sup>236,600</sup> should be added to this amount if 159 PTs are to be maintained. This cost estimate does not include logistics costs for material required to support the personnel. ~~This would be as much as a million additional dollars.~~

9. There are approximately 2,000 42-2500 Packard Marine Engines and 7,000 measured tons of PT boat and Packard engine spare parts in the POA which have been declared surplus.

cc:

OSF, Operations.

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COMMANDER, MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRONS  
PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER

DISPOSITION OF MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS

MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRONS PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER.

Elco Boats Burned - - - - -	79
Elco Boats Decommissioned - - - - -	77
Elco Boats Transferred to PacFlt - - - - -	2
Total Elco Boats - - - - -	158
Higgins Boats Burned - - - - -	35
Higgins Boats Decommissioned - - - - -	19
Total Higgins Boats - - - - -	54
MTB Rons Phil Sea Fron - - - - -	212
MTB Trans to Com MTB Rons Pac - - - - -	2
Total all MTB Rons Phil Sea Fron - - - - -	210

MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SQUADRONS PACIFIC FLEET.

Elco Boats Burned - - - - -	0
Elco Boats from CPSF - - - - -	2
Elco Boats Decommissioned - - - - -	36
Total Elco Boats Decommissioned - - - - -	38
Higgins Boats Burned - - - - -	2
Higgins Boats Decommissioned - - - - -	25
Total Higgins Boats - - - - -	27
Huckins PT Boats Decommissioned (Pearl Harbor) - - - - -	10
Total All MTB Rons Pacific Fleet - - - - -	75
Grand Total All PT's POA - - - - -	285

DISPOSITION ALL PT'S POA.

Boats Burned - - - - -	116
Boats Decommissioned Samar, P. I. - - - - -	159
Boats Decommissioned Pearl Harbor - - - - -	10
Total - - - - -	285

ENCLOSURE (A)

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COMBIBROS - PHILIPPINE SEA FRONTIER

PT SPARE PARTS REPORT

Packard Spare Parts.....	800	Measured tons
Higgins Spare Parts.....	1400	" "
Elco Spare Parts.....	2500	" "
Squadron 38, 39, 40 components..... (Packard and Elco)	400	" "
Tender Components..... (3 Comp. Pack. and Elco-1 Comp. Hig. and Packard)	600	" "

SPDC - MANICANI

5,700

1,300

7,000 Measured tons

AM-2500 PACKARD MARINE ENGINES

PT Base 17	720 Engines
Manus	192 "
Milne Bay	146 "
Returned to States (June)	300 "
Manicani	45 "
In Boats	<u>507</u> "
<b>Total</b>	<b>1910 Engines</b>

Enclosure (B)

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